

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An address restriction method comprising the steps of:

obtaining an address generated by an apparatus connected to a network and identification data unique to the apparatus;

determining whether the obtained address has been generated from the obtained identification data unique to the apparatus; and

sending a message forbidding the use of the obtained address according to the result of the determining step.

2. An address restriction method according to Claim 1, wherein said determining step determines whether the obtained address includes predetermined data.

3. An address restriction method according to Claim 1, wherein said obtaining step obtains a MAC address of a network interface provided for the apparatus, as the identification data unique to the apparatus.

4. An address restriction method according to Claim 1, wherein said sending step sends a message indicating that the obtained address has a collision.

5. An address restriction program comprising the steps of:

obtaining an address generated by an apparatus connected to a network and identification data unique to the apparatus;

determining whether the obtained address has been generated from the obtained identification data unique to the apparatus; and

sending a message forbidding the use of the obtained address according to the result of the determining step.

6. An address restriction program according to Claim 5, wherein said determining step determines whether the obtained address includes predetermined data.

7. An address restriction program according to Claim 5, wherein said obtaining step obtains a MAC address of a network interface provided for the apparatus, as the identification data unique to the apparatus.

8. An address restriction program according to Claim 5, wherein said sending step sends a message indicating that the obtained address has a collision.

9. An address restriction apparatus comprising:  
connection means for connecting to a network and for obtaining an address generated by a device connected to the network and identification data unique to the device; and  
determination means for determining whether the obtained address has been generated from the obtained identification data unique to the device;  
wherein, said connection means sends a message forbidding the use of the obtained address according to the result of the determination means.

10. An address restriction apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said determination means determines whether the obtained address includes predetermined data.

11. An address restriction apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said connection means obtains a MAC address of a network interface provided for the device, as the identification data unique to the device.

12. An address restriction apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said connection means sends a message indicating that the obtained address has a collision.

13. An address restriction apparatus according to

Claim 9, wherein said determination means performs a first determination of whether the obtained address has been generated from the obtained identification data unique to the device and a second determination of whether the obtained address matches an address of the connection means; and

said connection means sends the message forbidding the use of the obtained address according to the result of the first determination and the result of the second determination.